

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-30

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

S E C R E T COPENHAGEN 1514

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, DA, EEC, XF

SUBJECT: EURO/ARAB DIALOGUE

REF: ROME 7343 AND THE HAGUE 2669

1. IN A DISCUSSION WITH DCM MAY 30, MFA POLITICAL DIRECTOR BORCH CONFIRMED INFORMATION IN REFTELS RE EC INTENTION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH EURO/ARAB DIALOGUE. RESPONDING TO A QUESTION, BORCH SAID (AFTER A SLIGHT HESITATION) THAT ALL NINE WERE IN AGREEMENT ON THIS COURSE OF ACTION AND HE HELD LITTLE DOUBT THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS WOULD GO ALONG WITH THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS' RECOMMENDATION IN THEIR MEETING JUNE 10-11. HE THOUGHT THE DECISION TO MOVE TO A DIALOGUE WOULD PROBABLY BE MADE KNOWN TO THE PRESS AT THE END OF THE MINISTERIAL MEETING.

2. BORCH SAID THAT HE WAS VERY HAPPY THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD ENDED HIS MISSION BEFORE THE EC INITIATIVE.

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THE WORK OF PREPARING FOR THE EURO/ARAB DIALOGUE WOULD

BE A "MATTER OF CONSIDERABLE MAGNITUDE". LITTLE THOUGHT HAS YET BEEN GIVEN TO PROCEDURE OR FORMAT BUT BORCH ASSUMED THAT CERTAIN WORKING GROUPS WOULD BE SET UP WHICH WOULD REPORT TO THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS ON THE EC SIDE. HE THOUGHT SOMETHING MORE MANAGEABLE THAN A GROUP OF THE WHOLE (29) WOULD HAVE TO BE FOUND. AGAIN IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, BORCH SAID THAT ISRAEL WOULD BE INFORMED BY THE GERMAN PRESIDENCY ABOUT THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS' RECOMMENDATION. HE NOTED THAT THE MATTER OF A EURO/ISRAELI DIALOGUE WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO BE STUDIED.

3. COMMENT: IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT BESIDES WELCOMING THE SECRETARY'S SUCCESS FOR ITS OWN SAKE (SEPTTEL), BORCH WAS PLEASED THAT THE EC APPROACH TO THE ARABS WOULD NOT COME UNTIL THE SECRETARY HAD LEFT THE AREA. WHETHER THE INITIATIVE WOULD HAVE PROCEEDED IF THE SECRETARY HAD STILL BEEN INVOLVED WITH SYRIA AND ISRAEL IS MOOT, BUT FOR REASONS OF PRIDE (AND OIL) THE DANES WOULD PROBABLY HAVE URGED EARLY ACTION WITH THE ARABS.
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